

ooo are Roman Catholic, and 150,000,000 are Protestant. For the world's redemption Protestants are giving annually about \$15,000,000; sustain a missionary force of 14,200, of whom 3,380 are unmarried women; associated with them are 4,200 ordained natives, and a total of over 54,000 natives—about 80,000 toilers in all. The stations and out-stations occupied exceed 25,000, the communicants are upwards of 1,300,000, while almost 1,000,000 children and youth are being educated in more than 20,000 schools.

It appears plainly, then, that the redemption of the race is yet very far from complete, has scarcely passed beyond the initiatory stage; that while an excellent beginning has been made, "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed," and that while the saints of the twentieth century have every reason to be full of courage and hope and sure expectation of final success, a limitless demand is to be made upon them for the utmost of devotion, of consecrated beneficence, and lavish contributions of choicest young men and women.

Virtues of the Apple

Dr. G. R. Searles, Detroit, Michigan, speaking of the apple as a fruit says:

The apple is such a common fruit that very few persons are familiar with its remarkable efficacious medicinal properties. Everybody ought to know that the very best thing one can do is to eat apples just before retiring for the night. Persons uninitiated in the mysteries of the fruit are liable to throw up their hands in horror at the visions of dyspepsia which such a suggestion may summon up; but no harm can come to even a delicate system by the eating of juicy apples just before going to bed. The apple is excellent brain food, because it has more phosphoric acid in easily digested shape than other fruits. It excites the action of the liver, promotes sound and healthy sleep and thoroughly disinfects the mouth. This is not all. The apple helps the kidney secretions and prevents calculus growths, while it obviates indigestion and is one of the best known preventives of diseases of the throat.

Brief Notes

He who improves the present needs to have no concern for the future.

It is the very height of wisdom to be prepared for any event which might by any possibility come upon us unawares.

In a world where not a single wasted moment can be improved, men act as if they could recall all the days spent in idleness and folly.

He who should write the biography of Selfishness would record the whole history of sin. It is well for every man and woman to draw a line between that part of his life which is selfish, and that which is unselfish.

Supposing now that you and I take a single day, for example, yesterday, and write down every thought, purpose, word and act of the day, putting those that were selfish on one side of the ledger, and those that

were unselfish on the other side, would the balance sheet be one that we would like to preserve or destroy?

Urged by some decent people, the New York police are investigating some depraved theatrical performances. They are met by the argument that the plays which have been denounced are no worse than others, and the controversy seems now to be concerning the respective demerits of Beelzebub and Satan. Between the two we will take neither.

The world has yet to reach that exalted plane of Christian civilization where a dense population, such as we find in a large city, tends to righteousness and not to wickedness. That tremendous reversal in the moral condition of the world when the broad and the narrow road exchange places, and the many shall be found on the way of life, the few on the road to destruction, is yet, so far as human eyes can see, in the dim future.

A church in a certain town had a squabble with its minister, and one Sunday the congregation was treated to a scuffle between the preacher and a constable, who barred the way to the pulpit. Some things that are done in the name of religion would look better with a different brand. A church quarrel is a pitiful exhibition of human folly and weakness, sometimes of still lower forms of depravity.

When the Standard Oil Trust adds one cent a gallon to the price of oil, it means in this country alone an increase of the net profits of that Company of \$8,500,000, all of which comes out of the pockets of working people. The trust has just declared a quarterly dividend of twenty per cent. Light costs money, but nothing is so expensive as darkness, whether it be mental or spiritual. We should be profoundly thankful that the gospel light is not in the power of a greedy trust. It is still to be had without money and without price, but the love which it puts into the renewed heart opens the purse strings to all useful benevolences.

The rent roll of a city real-estate office is not usually a charitable institution. The papers tell of a poor woman 90 years old turned out of house into a wintry street because she could not pay her rent. It was a hardship and a cruelty, of course, but the large cities are full of such spectacles and worse. In every community there are a few people of means who commiserate the suffering poor, and try to help them, but as a rule the very qualities which are essential to the accumulation of large wealth are those which make a man insensible to the sufferings of the poor, the very class who by indirect methods have contributed to the money pile. This aged pauper doubtless found some sort of shelter, but her time is near at hand when she will be evicted from "this earthly tabernacle." Please God that she may have a "house not built with hands," ready for her joyful occupancy.

The inventor of Liquid Air was burned, not long since, by the fluid, not seriously, but enough to illustrate the dangerous character of his invention, as well as some others which may be mentioned. It is not the only instance of a man suffering evil consequences from his own devices. Those who concoct shrewd and original schemes of business or pleasure which are not strictly in accord with the moral law are mighty apt to be burned with their own inventions sooner or later. The law of moral compensations is absolute. Every man strictly pays the full price of his own conduct.

In France they have a celebrated Institution called "The Academy" to which only forty of the most distinguished citizens can be elected. The number is kept at forty by elections following the death of a member, and the association is called the "forty immortals." A member of the Academy has recently suggested that America ought to have a similar institution, arguing in support of his proposition that it would stimulate effort and genius to attain to the pre-eminent distinction of membership therein. Perhaps it would have that effect, but we trust that we have a much larger Academy of im-

mortals, consisting of a membership which strives for the mastery in virtue and holiness, and "by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and immortality." To such there is a promise of eternal life, a reward incomparably greater than any earthly distinction.

Prof. W. C. Pickering of Harvard University has made a discovery on the surface of the moon which is of great interest to astronomers. Hitherto it has been the general opinion that the moon had no atmosphere, as we have, but the Harvard astronomer has discovered changes and movements on the surface of the satellite which indicate the existence of an atmosphere. This increases the possibility of animal life there. We believe that life, and not death, is the ruling phenomena of the universe, and that the time will come when a more abundant life as well as a more abundant and penetrating knowledge will introduce is to marvels and delight of which we now know nothing. God hasn't made many millions of worlds for no intelligent purpose. They are the bright homes of his creatures.

The pitiful story is told by the newspapers of a mother witnessing the breaking of the ice beneath her two children, and of the sacrifice of her own life in the vain effort to save theirs. But there are multitudes of parents who witness, apparently without concern, the exposure of their children to moral peril of the deadliest nature, making little or no effort to save them, and certainly making no great sacrifices, no self denials, in that behalf.

The resourcefulness of wickedness is illustrated by the story of the deaf and dumb man who swears at his wife on the ends of his fingers. What's in the heart is apt to find some method of expression, and an oath therefore in pantomime is as culpable as one shouted out at the top of the lungs. The wife seeks a divorce, which the law is likely to grant on the ground of incompatibility. The same principle, incompatibility, separates between our souls and God, and unless corrected will eventually banish us from his presence.

Ghosts are not permitted to talk in Boston on Sunday. The police in that city put an end to a spiritualistic demonstration on the Lord's day, and the city of fads had a rest from the gibberish of mediums. What the officers of the law in Boston did on Sunday the Mosaic law did at all times, only that its condemnation of this wickedness carried the extreme penalty of death. There has been a distinct revival of spiritualism of late, the popular mind evidently demanding more humbuggery than it has been getting.

A singular illustration of the hold which superstition has on some minds was furnished by a woman criminal who arrived from Europe recently. Our immigration law forbids the entrance of criminals, and this woman attempted to hide her identity. When put to the oath she lied volubly on the Bible, but trembled and told the truth on the crucifix. There are more than this woman who need to be told that a lie is a lie, whether sworn on the Bible or something else, or merely affirmed. Moral distinctions are not any too clear in some minds.

The Herald and Presbyter says: "The church needs a great and sweeping revival. There has been a decline for years not only in our own, but in nearly all the evangelical churches of the land, in point of numerical increase. The additions are not so large as a few years ago. The losses have been great. Worldliness has prevailed. The love of some has waxed cold. We need new power from on high. There are multitudes of souls for whom prayers are arising. In many churches we hear that gracious work is being accomplished. It will be a blessed thing if this last year of the century shall see a great tide of spiritual life and power in all the churches."

—It is asserted that no two countries in the world make and eat the same kind of bread. In England and America there is the greatest similarity in this respect, but the Englishman never eats bread hot from the oven, nor does he use biscuits made with shortening.